

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

February 4th, 2024

8:30 & 11:00 am Services

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Introduction for the Day: In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (*diakonia*). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

Gathering

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Al Van Lith, Church Administrator

Please stand as you are able.

Call to Worship

God Is Here Today

Dios es - tá a qui, tan cier-to co-mo el ai - re
God is here to - day; as cer - tain as the

que res - pi - ro, tan cier-to co-mo la ma - ña - na se le -
air I breathe, as cer - tain as the morn-ing sun that

van ta, tan cier-to co-mo que le can - to y me pue-de o - ir.
ris - es, as cer - tain when I sing you'll hear my song.

Javier Gracias Mateo, b. 1956; tr. C. Michael Hawn, b. 1948. Text and arr. © 1999 Choristers Guild. Javier Gracias Mateo, arr. C. Michael Hawn & Arturo González, b. 1970. Tune: Dios Esta Aqui, Irr. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.

God is light; where there is no darkness at all.

If we walk in the light as God is the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin.

The Lord is eager to proclaim the good news. Let us prepare to receive it.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. God, our rock and refuge,

we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

God hears your prayer. Those who repent and truly believe are not overthrown.

We have seen the Lord's glory; we have heard the Lord's voice.

Walk, then, rejoicing as children of light. By the authority of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

Amen.

Gathering Song

#673 God, Whose Almighty Word

Litany for the Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Our eyes have seen, O God,

The lame leap for joy and the dead have been raised.

Our ears have heard, O God,

Those who were sick crying for joy.

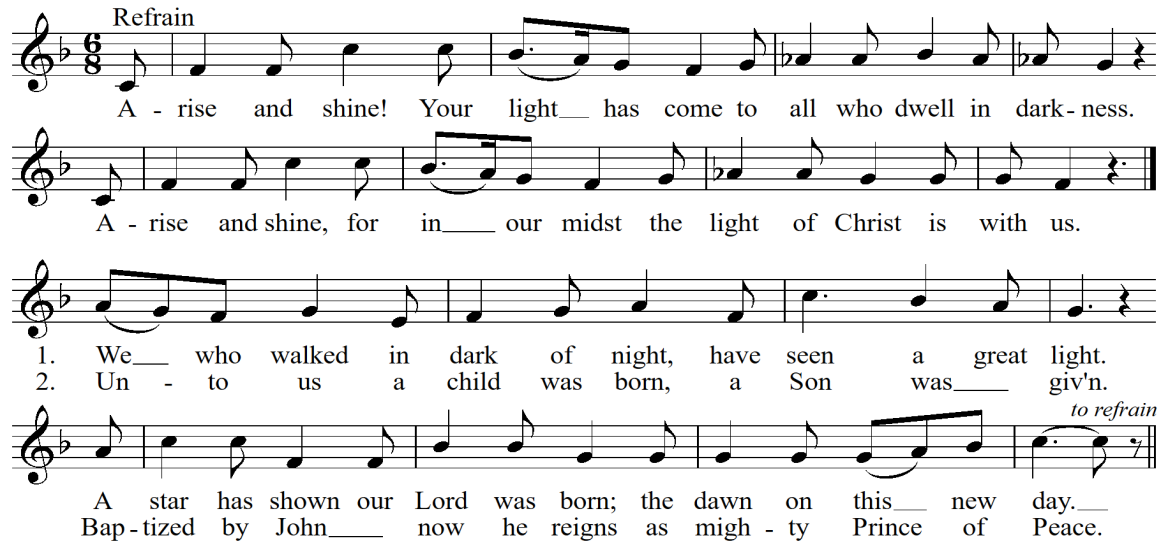
Filled with such images and sounds fit us for service

Then we will join Christ on his mission: "Let us go out to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also!"

Hymn of Praise

Arise and Shine

Refrain



A - rise and shine! Your light_ has come to all who dwell in dark-ness.

A - rise and shine, for in___ our midst the light of Christ is with us.

1. We___ who walked in dark of night, have seen a great light.
 2. Un - to us a child was born, a Son was___ giv'n.

to refrain

A star has shown our Lord was born; the dawn on this___ new day.___
 Bap-tized by John___ now he reigns as migh - ty Prince of Peace.

Music & Text [based on Isaiah 9:2] by John R. Paradowski. Copyright © 2005 Choristers Guild Publications.
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Apostolic Greeting

Arise, shine; for the Light has come!

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us!

The grace of God that extends to all nations in Christ Jesus through the work of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Word

First Reading

Isaiah 40:21-31

The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Reading

Psalm 147

The Lord heals the brokenhearted. (Ps. 147:3)

Let us read responsively from Psalm 147.

Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem and gathers the exiles of Israel.

The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

The LORD counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

Great is our LORD and mighty in power; there is no limit to God's wisdom.

The LORD lifts up the lowly but casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp to our God,

who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.

God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry.

God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,

but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD, in those who await God's steadfast love.

Hallelujah!

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation

Arise, Be Clothed in the Light

A - rise, be clothed in the light.____ A - rise, be clothed in the light.____

Your light__ has come, your light__ has come. Al - le - lu - ia._____

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Gospel

Mark 1:29-39

Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1st Chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Frank Janzow

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

#843 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

(Prayer Cards, which can be found in the pew racks, will be collected during the Hymn of the Day)

Profession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Usher Volunteers gather for Offering Collection at the Welcome Center.

Prayers of Intercession

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

...God of Grace,

Receive our prayer.

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

Meal

Musical Offering 8:30
 11:00

Adagio for the Glass Harmonica – W.A. Mozart
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing - Diane Bish
Arr. Martha Lynn Thompson, Bells Angels

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory Response

#183 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offertory Prayer

God, though we are weakened by sin, still, you provide us with every good thing. Even more, you strengthen us to stand in your presence to offer you these gifts. Use them to build up your kingdom. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

We come to be filled with light and life.

Please be seated.

Call to Communion

We Come Now to Your Table

We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread.

We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed. _

You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed: _

and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed _ with Liv - ing Bread.

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Communion Anthem 11:00 *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*
arr. Cathy Moglebust, Bells Angels

Communion Hymn **#483 Here is Bread**

Please stand as you are able.

Communion Response

May the body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his light and grace.

Amen.

Prayer After Communion

Filled with this rich food, O Christ, we are strengthened to accomplish what you came to do. Send us out to proclaim your message throughout the world. You are the Lord forevermore.

Amen.

Sending

Benediction for the Epiphany Season

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ shine in our hearts, transform our lives, and brighten the world.

May God, who lightens our paths, accompany us on our journey this day and always.

Since we have been called to participate in God's ministry, let us offer ourselves to God and to the world. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you forever.

Amen.

Sending Song **#538 The Lord Now Sends Us Forth/**
Enviado soy de Dios

Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Scripture for Fifth Sunday of Epiphany – February 4, 2024

1st Reading -- Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

2nd Reading -- 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak.

I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Gospel Reading -- Mark 1:29-39

As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do."

And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.